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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Scott F. Watson

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EXAMINER

WANG, LIANG CHE A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2153

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/30/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/764,783	Applicant(s) WATSON, SCOTT F.	
	Examiner Liangche A. Wang	Art Unit 2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 31-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 31-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 31-60 are presented for examination.
2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/25/08 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 6/25/08, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. Amendment to claims 51 to recite a tangible program carrier does not overcome 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection. The Examiner suggests to delete the term "carrier" from page 13 line 20 of the specification to overcome this rejection.
5. In that remarks, applicant's argues in substance:
 - a. That: applicant argues Dwek show a network where a single server is connected to multiple other client computers, NOT the other way around, i.e., the user of a client computer connected to multiple data stores and computer as described in the independent claims.

In response to applicant's argument, Dwek in figure 1 shows client computers 130 are connected to plurality of servers (112, 114, 116, 118).

Updated rejection is provided.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

6. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

7. Claims 51-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. See MPEP § 2106.01. Claims 51-60 recites “an article of manufacture comprising a tangible computer program carrier readable by a computer”, however, a computer program having code recorded on a computer readable medium such as carrier wave or optical wave is not tangible since such computer transport medium does not fall into the categories of “process”, “machine”, “manufacture” and “composition of matter”. Furthermore, the computer program stored on carrier wave is not operable if not executed by a computer or system. Therefore, the inoperative of the computer program stored on a computer transport medium lacks utility. Intrinsic evidence as disclosed in page 13 lines 16-22 of the specification. Applicant

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this

subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claims 31-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dwek, US Patent Number 6,248,946, hereinafter Dwek.
10. Referring to claim 31, Dwek teaches a method (Col 4 lines 18-21) of providing data to a user of a client computer (user of client 130, Figure 1, Col 3 lines 44-49) connected to multiple data stores (Song File Servers 116) and multiple other computers (Streaming Server 118 and other client 130s), the method comprising the steps of: providing a user interface (user interface 250, figure 2) to enable the user to identify desired data (Col 4 lines 35-38, user selection) available on one or more of the multiple data stores or on one or more of the multiple other computers (figure 1, Col 4 lines 25-59, songs stores on online music database 114, song file servers 116 are available for users of computers 130 to select); retrieving the desired data (Col 4 lines 63-65, locating music file); and providing the desired data to the user (Col 4 lines 65-67, returning back to user).
11. Referring to claim 32, Dwek teaches the method of claim 31, wherein the user interface provides categories of data (figure 3A).
12. Referring to claim 33, Dwek teaches the method of claim 32, wherein the categories of data include music categories (figure 3A).
13. Referring to claim 34, Dwek teaches the method of claim 32, wherein the categories of data include news categories (Col 12 lines 15-22, new recording release corresponds to news categories).

14. Referring to claim 35, Dwek teaches the method of claim 31, wherein the desired data comprises one or more music files that are played with a media player (Col 8 lines 19-26, songs are played by user's music player).
15. Referring to claim 36, Dwek teaches the method of claim 35, further comprising providing a music controller (Col 2 lines 16-26, figure 3A).
16. Referring to claim 37, Dwek teaches the method of claim 35, wherein the user interface enables a user to create music filters (Col 2 lines 16-23).
17. Referring to claim 38, Dwek teaches the method of claim 37, wherein a music filter comprises data on how frequently a music file is to be played (Col 2 lines 16-23, play frequency).
18. Referring to claim 39, Dwek teaches the method of claim 35, wherein the user interface enables a user to create a custom station (Col 9 lines 18-30, figure 3B).
19. Referring to claim 40, Dwek teaches the method of claim 39, wherein the user interface enables a user to share the custom station with another user (Col 9 lines 32-45).
20. Referring to claim 41, Dwek teaches a n apparatus (Col 4 lines 18-21) for providing data to a user of a client computer (client 130, Figure 1), comprising:
 - a. a client computer (client 130) connected to multiple data stores (Song File Server 116) and multiple other computers (Streaming Server 118 and other client 130s);
 - b. one or more computer programs, adapted to be executed by the client computer and multiple other computers for, providing a user interface (user interface 250, figure 2) to enable the user to identify desired data (Col 4 lines 35-38, user selection) from one or more of the multiple data stores or on one or more of the

multiple other computers (figure 1, Col 4 lines 25-59, songs stores on online music database 114, song file servers 116 are available for users of computers 130 to select); retrieve the desired data (Col 4 lines 63-65, locating music file); and provide the desired data to the user (Col 4 lines 65-67, returning back to user).

21. Referring to claim 42, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 41, wherein the user interface provides categories of data (figure 3A).
22. Referring to claim 43, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the categories of data include music categories (figure 3A).
23. Referring to claim 44, Dwek teaches apparatus of claim 42, wherein the categories of data include news categories (Col 12 lines 15-22, new recording release corresponds to news categories).
24. Referring to claim 45, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 41, wherein the desired data comprises one or more music files that are played with a media player (Col 8 lines 19-26, songs are played by user's music player).
25. Referring to claim 46, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 45, further comprising providing a music controller (Col 2 lines 16-26, figure 3A).
26. Referring to claim 47, Dwek teaches apparatus of claim 46, wherein the user interface enables a user to create music filters (Col 2 lines 16-23).
27. Referring to claim 48, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 47, wherein a music filter comprises data on how frequently a music file is to be played (Col 2 lines 16-23, play frequency).

28. Referring to claim 49, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 45, wherein the user interface enables a user to create a custom station (Col 9 lines 18-30, figure 3B).
29. Referring to claim 50, Dwek teaches the apparatus of claim 49, wherein the user interface enables a user to share the custom station with another user (Col 9 lines 32-45).
30. Referring to claim 51, Dwek teaches an article of manufacture comprising a tangible computer program carrier readable by a computer and having stored thereon one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps (Col 4 lines 18-21) for providing data to a user of a client computer (client 130, Figure 1) connected to multiple data stores (Song File Server 116) and multiple other computers (Streaming Server 118 and other client 130s), the method comprising the steps of: providing a user interface (user interface 250, figure 2) to enable the user to identify desired data (Col 4 lines 35-38, user selection); retrieving the desired data (Col 4 lines 63-65, locating music file); and providing the desired data to the user (Col 4 lines 65-67, returning back to user).
31. Referring to claim 52, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the user interface provides categories of data (figure 3A).
32. Referring to claim 53, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 52, wherein the categories of data include music categories (figure 3A).
33. Referring to claim 54, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 52, wherein the categories of data include news categories (Col 12 lines 15-22, new recording release corresponds to news categories).

34. Referring to claim 55, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the desired data comprises one or more music files that are played with a media player (Col 8 lines 19-26, songs are played by user's music player).
35. Referring to claim 56, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 55, further comprising providing a music controller (Col 2 lines 16-26, figure 3A).
36. Referring to claim 57, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 55, wherein the user interface enables a user to create music filters (Col 2 lines 16-23).
37. Referring to claim 58, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 57, wherein a music filter comprises data on how frequently a music file is to be played (Col 2 lines 16-23, play frequency).
38. Referring to claim 59, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 55, wherein the user interface enables a user to create a custom station (Col 9 lines 18-30, figure 3B).
39. Referring to claim 60, Dwek teaches the article of manufacture of claim 59, wherein the user interface enables a user to share the custom station with another user (Col 9 lines 32-45).

Conclusion

40. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liang-che Alex Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Art Unit: 2153

41. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton B Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
42. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Liang-che Alex Wang
June 25, 2008

/Liangche A. Wang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2153